

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY
PCT
INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference M80786375	FOR FURTHER ACTION	see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No. PCT/AU2004/001729	International filing date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 8 December 2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (<i>day/month/year</i>) 10 December 2003
Applicant THE BIONIC EAR INSTITUTE et al		

This international search report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This international search report consists of a total of **4** sheets.

☒ It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the language, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

- b. ☐ With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. ☐ Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box No. II).

3. ☐ Unity of invention is lacking (See Box No. III).

4. With regard to the title,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

☒ the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

☐ the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regard to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the drawings to be published with the abstract is Figure No.2

☒ as suggested by the applicant.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

☐ as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐ none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001729

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. ⁷: H04R 25/00; A61F 11/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

WPAT: auditory, cochlea, prosthesis, array, electrode, delay and similar terms.

USPTO: auditory, cochlea, prosthesis, array, electrode, delay, amplitude and similar terms.

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 2003/099179 A1 (THE BIONIC EAR INSTITUTE) 4 December 2003 Page 3 line 24-Page 17 line 26	1-16
A	WO 2002/096153 A1 (HEARING WORKS PTY LTD.) 28 November 2002 Page 4 line 20-Page 14 line 20	1-16
A	WO 2001/099470 A1 (COCHLEAR LIMITED et al.) 27 December 2001 Page 2 line 17-Page 16 line 12	1-16
A	WO 1996/012383 A1 (UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE et al.) 25 April 1996 Page 2 line 26-Page 17 line 5	1-16

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C☒ See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:	
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	

Date of the actual completion of the international search
11 February 2005Date of mailing of the international search report
22 FEB 2005Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 1991/003913 A1 (COCHLEAR LIMITED et al.) 21 March 1991 Page 15 line 13-Page 36 line 8	1-16
A	US 4207441 A (RICARD et al.) 10 June 1980 Col. 1 line 4-Col. 6 line 40	1-16

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/AU2004/001729

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report				Patent Family Member			
WO	2003/099179		N/A				
WO	2002/096153	US	2004172101				
WO	2001/099470	AU	65692/01	CA	2405523	EP	1310137
		US	2003171786				
WO	1996/012383	AU	36460/95	CA	2202868	EP	0787415
		US	5991663				
WO	1991/003913	AU	63392/90	CA	2024845	EP	0450004
		US	5095904	US	5271397		
US	4207441	CH	627603	DE	2811120	DK	116078
		FR	2383657	JP	53117296		
Due to data integration issues this family listing may not include 10 digit Australian applications filed since May 2001.							
END OF ANNEX							